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NEWSPAPER
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Halloween and Snow Day pictures inside!

Snow closes campus for day and a half

IAN LITTMAN / OREDIGGER

Woody's celebrates last Golden Cruise of year

Gene Duran
Staff Writer

It was an overcast evening with expectations for heavy rain and snow. However, this didn't deter the excitement of nearly 200 riders taking their bikes cruising up and down Washington Street in costumes (the beer probably helped a little too).

The Golden Cruise is an event held on the last Tuesday of every month starting in April and ending before November. Riders bring their bikes and park them in front of Woody's, then at exactly 7:00 PM, they ride them all around town. Justin, who was dressed like an "old-school" Pepsi delivery man, was one of the first people to bring an actual cruising bike when the event first started nearly 3 years ago. "Back then, it was just a few guys riding their bikes around town." It is also worth mentioning that there have never been any fatalities at the event - "Besides a few of the bikes not working properly," said Justin.

Woody's was also proud to display their new solar panels.

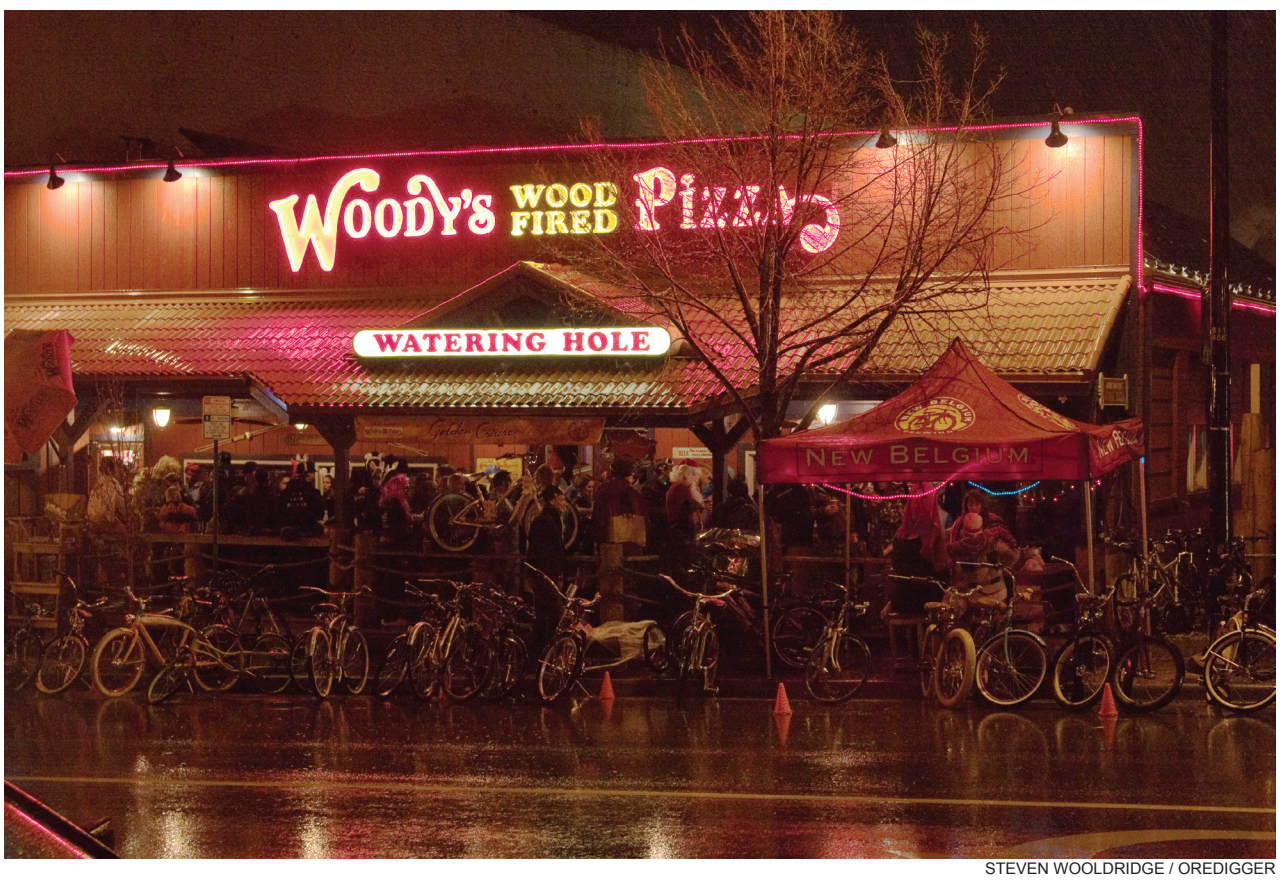
The costumes at the event were extremely creative and fun. Captain America wouldn't tell anyone his secret identity (even though he had been doing the Golden Cruise since it started 3 years ago), and Denise Mitrano was dressed as a Garden Gnome. Al, the partial organizer for the event and the man who runs the website for Golden Cruise, www.goldensupercruise.com, was dressed as Yukon Cornelius. Kacie, Jade, and Steve were the first people to show up for the event. Kacie was dressed as a disco doll on a giant mountain bike. Jade was dressed as superwoman on her Sears "Free Spirit" bike. Steve didn't dress up, but came on his "puny yellow bike," as described by Jade.

Tim, a Mines Alum with a master's degree in Geology, was in town after coming back from working in the Congo. Tim was dressed like a candy pirate for the event. He enjoys the Golden Cruise "for the people, the good times, and the great mix of people in Golden."

Despite the weather, Woody's was also proud to display their new solar panels. Jon Bortles, the restaurant owner's son, was the main man making it happen; "We worked on getting [the solar panels] over the course of 2 years. Got the bid done working with numerous energy groups." Xcel and the Golden Urban Renewal Agency (GURA) gave Woody's bonuses for carrying on a more sustainable business. The whole system of 48 panels generating 10,000 Watts of power costs $55,000. "We only ended up paying about $10,000 for the whole thing."

The panels were supplied by Buglet Solar Electric. Buglet Solar provides solar panels for businesses everywhere in the United States with tax breaks for businesses and homeowners. "And, the solar panels are made right here in the US," said Mike Helms, dressed as Disco Stu.

Helms, who has been supporting the Golden Cruise since it started, enjoys the event a great deal. "It came from humble beginnings of about 12 people to about 200 people here tonight," said Helms. "We've given away nearly 200 bikes since this event started, and I still see those bikes around town. It's just good to help the community."



STEVEN WOOLDRIDGE / OREDIGGER

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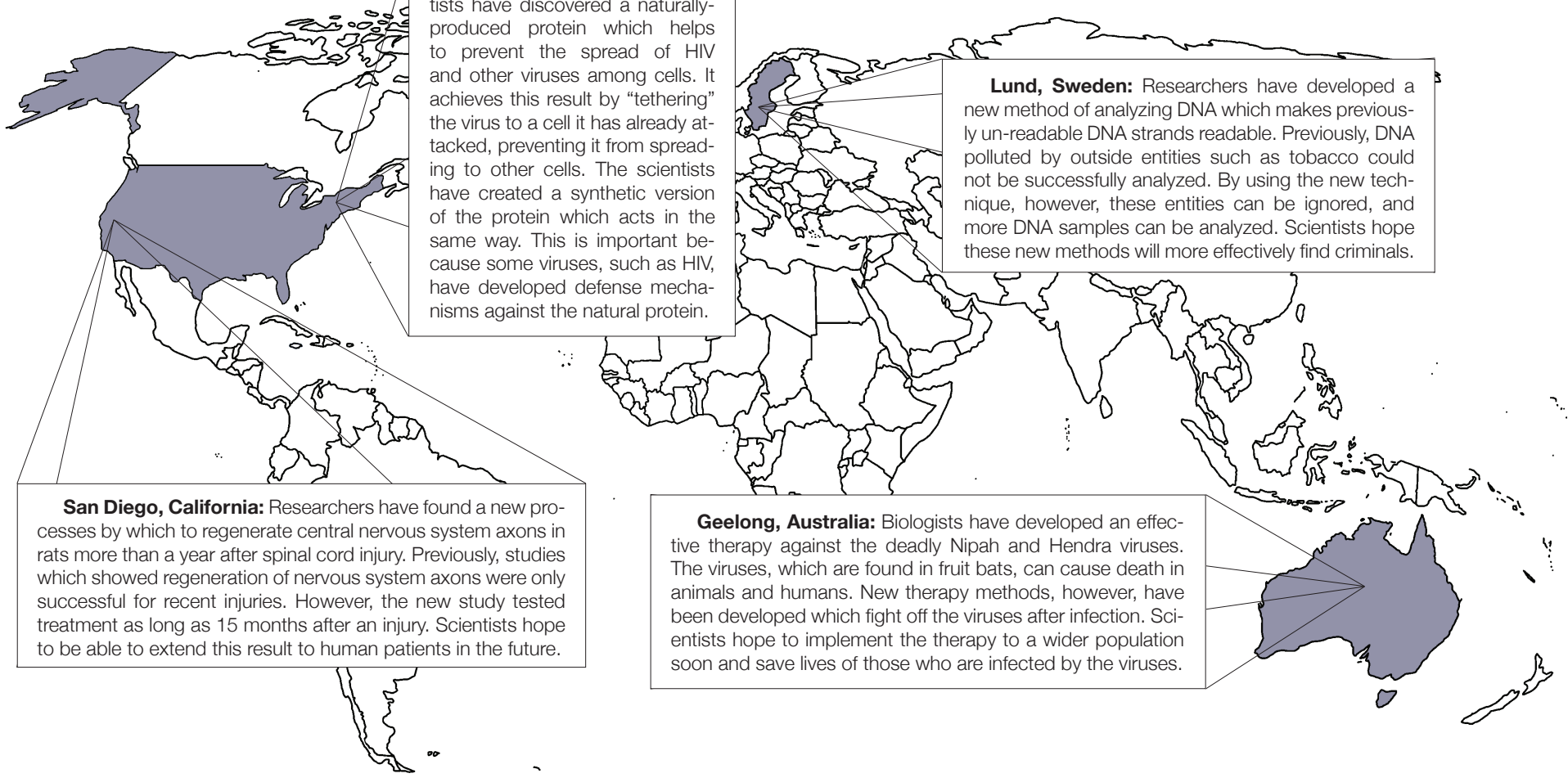
Scientific discoveries this week

Jake Rezac, Content Manager



New York, New York: Scientists have discovered a naturally-produced protein which helps to prevent the spread of HIV and other viruses among cells. It achieves this result by "tethering" the virus to a cell it has already attacked, preventing it from spreading to other cells. The scientists have created a synthetic version of the protein which acts in the same way. This is important because some viruses, such as HIV, have developed defense mechanisms against the natural protein.

Lund, Sweden: Researchers have developed a new method of analyzing DNA which makes previously un-readable DNA strands readable. Previously, DNA polluted by outside entities such as tobacco could not be successfully analyzed. By using the new technique, however, these entities can be ignored, and more DNA samples can be analyzed. Scientists hope these new methods will more effectively find criminals.

San Diego, California: Researchers have found a new processes by which to regenerate central nervous system axons in rats more than a year after spinal cord injury. Previously, studies which showed regeneration of nervous system axons were only successful for recent injuries. However, the new study tested treatment as long as 15 months after an injury. Scientists hope to be able to extend this result to human patients in the future.

Geelong, Australia: Biologists have developed an effective therapy against the deadly Nipah and Hendra viruses. The viruses, which are found in fruit bats, can cause death in animals and humans. New therapy methods, however, have been developed which fight off the viruses after infection. Scientists hope to implement the therapy to a wider population soon and save lives of those who are infected by the viruses.

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Headlines from around the world

Emily Trudell, Staff Writer

Somali pirates demanded a ransom of $7 million from the British government for the safe return of Paul and Rachel Chandler, a British couple that was kidnapped off of their yacht last week. The British government has said that it will not pay the ransom, though the couple has been moved to a hijacked Spanish vessel that is reported to carry weapons.

The Pentagon projected that sending an **additional 40,000 troops** as requested by General Stanley McChrystal would cost roughly $20 billion a year; or $500,000 for each soldier per year. President Obama met Friday with military officials to discuss this and other strategies for the war in Afghanistan.

A French court fined the **Church of Scientology** and convicted six of its members of organized fraud after two people said they were defrauded by the group. The church, which is considered a rogue sect in France, was ordered as part of the verdict to publish a warning in national and international magazines. Eric Roux, a spokesperson for the CoS, has complained that this trial was a "modern Inquisition."

New York police believe that they have identified the 18 year old girl who was found in early October outside of **Covenant House New York**, a local youth shelter. The young woman, referred to as "Jane Doe," did not know who she was or where she came from when she was found.

The Center for Disease Control has said that 16.1 million doses of the **H1N1 vaccine** had been made by the end of the week, though only 11.3 million of those doses have been distributed to the population.

The young Canadian folk singer **Taylor Mitchell**, aged 19, was killed by coyotes while hiking at the Cape Breton Highlands National Park in Nova Scotia. Hikers called 911, but Mitchell later died at a hospital in Halifax after being airlifted from the scene.

Jacques Chirac, the former president of France, will become the first French president to ever stand trial. Chirac is accused of corruption for using public funds to finance his presidential campaign. As president, Chirac had immunity to prosecution, but can now be brought to court.

Authorities in Malaysia have seized over 20,000 Bibles because they refer to God as "**Allah.**" The confiscations of Bibles in recent months have caused a growing fear in minority populations.

Federal regulators shut down nine banks this week, including three closures to banks in California. Recent **bank failures** have been especially high in California, Georgia, and Illinois.

Local News

The fourth annual Colorado Environmental Film Festival will be held this week in Golden. The event begins on Thursday night and will continue through Saturday. More information can be found at http://www.ceff.net/.

Due to inclement weather this week, campus was closed after 3:00 pm on Wednesday, and reopened Friday morning. As a result, many presentations had to be rescheduled or cancelled.

The Colorado School of Mines received $1.19 million to create a large-scale simulation model that can include more factors involved in geothermal drilling than the currently existing models. CSM also received $860,597 to create and validate an model that includes how fluids might act if injected into a well drilled into hot rock, and $245,797 to create a "Geothermal Academy," with a data and analysis clearinghouse for ground-source heat projects.

Dr. Amadeu Sum and Dr. David Wu are being recognized in the upcoming Nature Chemistry online for their work with hydrate research.

Colorado School of Mines men's soccer players Kenan Bisic and Trevor Braun were both named ESPN the Magazine First Team Academic All-District VII (College Division), while Jeff Nelson was named to the Second Team, as announced by CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America).

Geek of the Week

...Brendan Casias, Junior; Metallurgical and Material Science engineering

Daniel Haughey
Staff Writer

[Oredigger] Do you consider yourself a geek?

[Brendan] Comparatively at this school, not really, prior to coming here, maybe.

Why do you think that?

I supposed it was harder for me to fit. But now that I go to Mines, I am really just part of the majority here. Everyone just fits in here; I suppose that for the most part we all have about the same background. Sure, I am geek but relatively speaking, aren't we all?

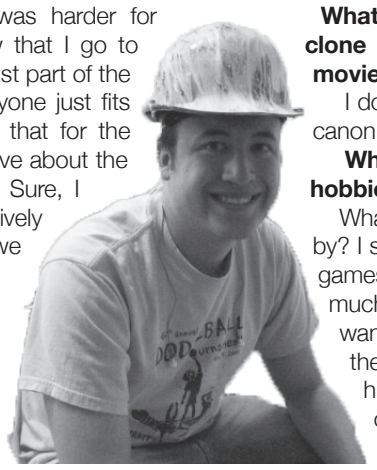

PHOTO COURTESY BRENDAN CASIAS

How did you come to be at Mines?

After I went to Cornell and saw that they really did not know what they are doing at all with their undergrad, I kind of only applied to this school. So lucky they let me in.

But don't you have a bunch of family that has been here as well?

Yeah, my sister is currently going here. And my brother has graduated from here and is now a doctor.

What is your favorite Geeky joke?

Why did the chicken cross the Mobius strip?

Why?

To get to the same side.

Star Wars or Star Trek? And why?

They're both awesome. And the [new] Star Trek is pretty awesome.

Have you seen the original movies? I have seen the first four movies, and I have seen all of the original Star Trek series. I have seen all the Star Wars movies.

What about the new clone wars cartoon movies?

I don't consider that canon.

What are your hobbies?

What isn't my hobby? I swim, I play video games, I do pretty much anything people want to do, I was on the chess team in high school, I was on the speech team, I pretty much do anything, but I tend to stay away from most sports. As far as everything else goes if it is a little bit mental I am probably into it.

What is the geekiest thing you own?

The geekiest thing I own is probably my computer. I also have a grid of just blocks for if you want to play D&D you just write on it with a white erase marker.

What has been your favorite class at Mines?

Phase Equalibria. It's the class where they give you all the answers. You don't have to find anything, it's all on a graph. The most you have to do is a little bit of algebra to get the answers. Other than that all the answers are given to you.

What is your favorite piece of technology?

Favorite piece of technology has to be prosthetics. They can do anything, well almost anything. Once I get into the work force, then they will do anything. Just wait until the robot rebellion.

What about the three laws from Asimov?

What laws!? [Maniacal laugh]

What is your favorite movie?

My favorite movie right now is "Zombieland" It has pretty much every single genre of a movie in there but it played itself out so well as a comedy and it has just so many one liners.

What clubs and activities are you involved in?

Let's see if I remember them all. I am a member of SWE (Society of Women Engineers), MSEC (material science and engineering club), and I recently created the Board Game Club, I am part of the RPC club (role playing club), and also part of APO or Alpha Phi Omega which I joined this year. And I think that is about it.

Who is your role model and why?

My role model has to be my brother, because he went to this school and got really really good grades. So he's really smart so hopefully I'll be as smart as him. He is a doctor and I hope to achieve the same amount of success.

What is your favorite OS and Why?

I am really torn; I really like Gen-2 because it's really really shiny. I also like Windows 7 because it's really really shiny. I heard Google OS is coming out soon and I really want that one as well. So we will see how that goes as I boot three different operating systems on my computer with only 80 gigabytes of memory remaining.

What is your favorite formula and why?

It would have to be from calculus; tabular integration, because it just made everything easier you can integrate almost anything with that rule, excluding u subs, but there's another special formula for that one.

If you were stuck on a deserted island and you could only bring three items what would they be?

I would bring a lot of wood or a polymeric equivalent so it would be resistant to rain. Maybe an axe or a cutting tool and whole bunch of rope, because just as long as that stuff is burnable you can make your own water, you have shelter and you can survive for a while.

If you could come up for a class for CSM what would it be?

It would be "Special topics in Mandelbrot and Julia set, how everything is self similar and there is theory to the chaos around you."

If you could be anyone else who would you be?

No. I could not be anyone else, I am way too awesome.

One thing you love at Mines?

One thing I love at Mines is pretty much everything is pretty awesome. People are amazing to talk to and you can actually talk with your teachers, as opposed to in high school where there is this invisible barrier blocking them from talking intellectually. Here you just walk into their office and start chatting. Pretty much all I did second semester was talk to my physics teacher and we would just talk over weird and obscure topics that had nothing to do with what we were talking about during class.

One thing you would like to see change?

The tests should be a lot easier but that will never change. I would also like to see a bioengineering degree I hear it is coming in 4 or 5 years, but...

Favorite Mines experience?

I suppose my favorite Mines experience was TP'ing the third floor when I was in the dorms last year.

Can you admit to that?

Yeah, it was an RA sponsored event and besides they TP'ed us way worse.

Favorite word?

Id.

What's Id?

You have your ego and your Super ego and your id, it's your primary emotions and its just a cool word.

What you planning to do after Mines?

Go to more school be it here or some where else, I need to get my PhD before they will let me operate on people

Operate? What do you mean?

I want to go into prosthetics.

Why prosthetics?

They're pretty cool and the current prosthetics are kind of cool but I want make them more realistic so the people can't even tell that you have them. Like with people coming back from wars missing limbs and such I want to help gain a normal part of their life back.

What is the geekiest thing you have done?

The geekiest thing I have done is run through Wal-Mart in a pac-man and ghost costume.

Mines SWE section awarded

Alec Westerman
Staff Writer

The Mines SWE chapter received three awards at the national conference. Candace Sulzbach, advisor to the Society of Women Engineers student chapter, received the faculty advisor award, which is awarded on the national level. The chapter won the "Outstanding Collegiate Section" (a silver level award) and an award for "membership retention." The leaders of the Mines SWE chapter also won a trivia bowl with questions focused on SWE matters.

In explaining how the Mines SWE chapter had done so well, Sulzbach said, "We just have a really great group of officers."

Sulzbach explained the high membership saying, "I think it's the collaboration between our section… and admissions… Sarah Andrews is really instrumental in getting the word out before students come to Mines."

In describing where the Mines SWE chapter has been, Sulzbach reflected, "When I was a student, there were two advisors and six students." That was SWE in 1980. She continued that when she took over in 2001, there were about 225 members. Tying the past in with the present, Sulzbach summarized, "We had 451 last year."

Sulzbach stated, "We want to become number one in size nationwide." Currently, the Mines SWE section is second: "We want to beat Purdue." In order to meet those goals, she would like to see SWE engage in more outreach and to continue to support its members at Mines.

Eryn Ammerman, president, credited the success of the Mines SWE chapter to the new officer structure saying, "Mainly for me, it's the new officer structure." She explained that, in the new structure, "there's one president… 7 vice presidents… 24 directors."

"There's a lot of people to keep track of," she explained. With that she praised the officers for having good communication skills.

Ammerman credited the success in growing membership to the section's raffles that give away prizes such as trips to nationals or an iPod to members who get friends to join.

She admitted, "Everything else we do is the same we do every year."

In looking forward, Ammerman stated, "We want to keep our membership up; we want to be first in the nation." However, she explained that numbers alone weren't the only goal. She believes in keeping a membership that is involved and positively affected by their membership in SWE.

Stacie Biava, vice president of outreach, explained the success of our section saying, "We're actually a really large section." She cited good leadership and the fact that, "Our section does a lot of events." She summarized, "We're just really active."

Biava explained the growing membership by saying, "In my experience… we're actually reaching out to freshmen before they get to campus." She hopes to see the club engage in more outreach, start a new event partnering with Boys and Girls club and would like to see some small community service events take place.

In response to how she received the outstanding faculty advisor award, Sulzbach replied, "Andrea nominated me for that." She then expounded saying how it was a process that involved quite a lot of paper work. Sulzbach explained, "I actually had a SWE resume." In addition to that, three letters of recommendation were also required.

Ammerman explained the success of Sulzbach in faculty advisor awards saying, "She won faculty advisor award because she's the best faculty advisor ever."

As to the outstanding section awards, Sulzbach described the process saying, "We submit a report." She expounded saying that the report is called an OCS report.

Ammerman clarified, "For the OCS, Andrea and I wrote that."

Biava said, "I was on the SME Bull team." In that endeavor, she was accompanied by Ammerman. Biava explained,"It's a regional competition." "We were undefeated," she summarized, "We pretty much just answered questions correctly."

Ammerman explained that SME Bowl stands for Subject Matter Expert Bowl.

She explained that it's put on by Exxon Mobil. That, "There's 5 people on a team in a region. Stacy and I were on our team for region... We were undefeated and we each won a hundred dollars... our region got $2,000."

TECH BREAK

Wireless buying guide

Ian Littman
Tech Break Columnist

Whether you're fed up with the service of your current provider or whether your dad booted you off the family plan because you racked up a $200 overage bill on your line, there are plenty of reasons to be looking for cellular service right about now. Fortunately for you, there are plenty of options to choose from, and they've gotten better over the past few months. One quick tip for anyone looking for a new contract, Mines students get an "Employee Discount" on the "big four" carriers if you ask for one with your Mines e-mail address; 15% off your phone bill is no small matter these days.

Verizon is the largest carrier in the US, both by subscribers (nearly 90 million) and coverage. They have a decent selection of phones, which you can buy with zero- to two-year contracts; a two-year contract will give you a good discount on your new phone. Verizon's current "iPhone killer" is the Motorola Droid, the first phone to support Google's 2.0 Android operating system. In terms of plans, Verizon learned a trick from Alltel, whom they bought out earlier this year; plans above $60 get unlimited calling to and from five US phone numbers of the subscriber's choice. That said, Verizon's plans are rather expensive compared to the alternatives; a 450 minute voice plan is $60 when bundled with unlimited text and picture messaging, though the price is a little lower if you bundle your cellular service with a Qwest landline or DSL package. You also have to buy a data plan with their newer feature phones.

Fortunately, there are a couple of alternatives to Verizon-branded service that still run on Verizon's gargantuan network. There's Tracfone's new Straight Talk plan, whose main feature is an unlimited talk, text, and data plan for $45 per month, with minimal extra taxes and fees and no contract. On the other hand is **Page Plus Cellular**, a lesser-known provider that will give you unlimited talk and text plus 20MB of data for $40 per month. They also offer 1200 minutes and texts plus 100MB of data access for $30, with no extra fees or contracts. The catch is that Straight Talk can't roam off Verizon's network (not a huge deal since Verizon Wireless covers more ground than any other single US wireless network) and Page Plus charges 59¢ per roaming minute, though texting while roaming is no different than using text messaging on Verizon's network. Also, Straight Talk has a limited selection of lower-end phones and Page Plus requires you to either buy one of their three-year-old Verizon phones or find your own.

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Many people chose to take advantage of free Chipotle burritos for those who came in wearing aluminum foil.

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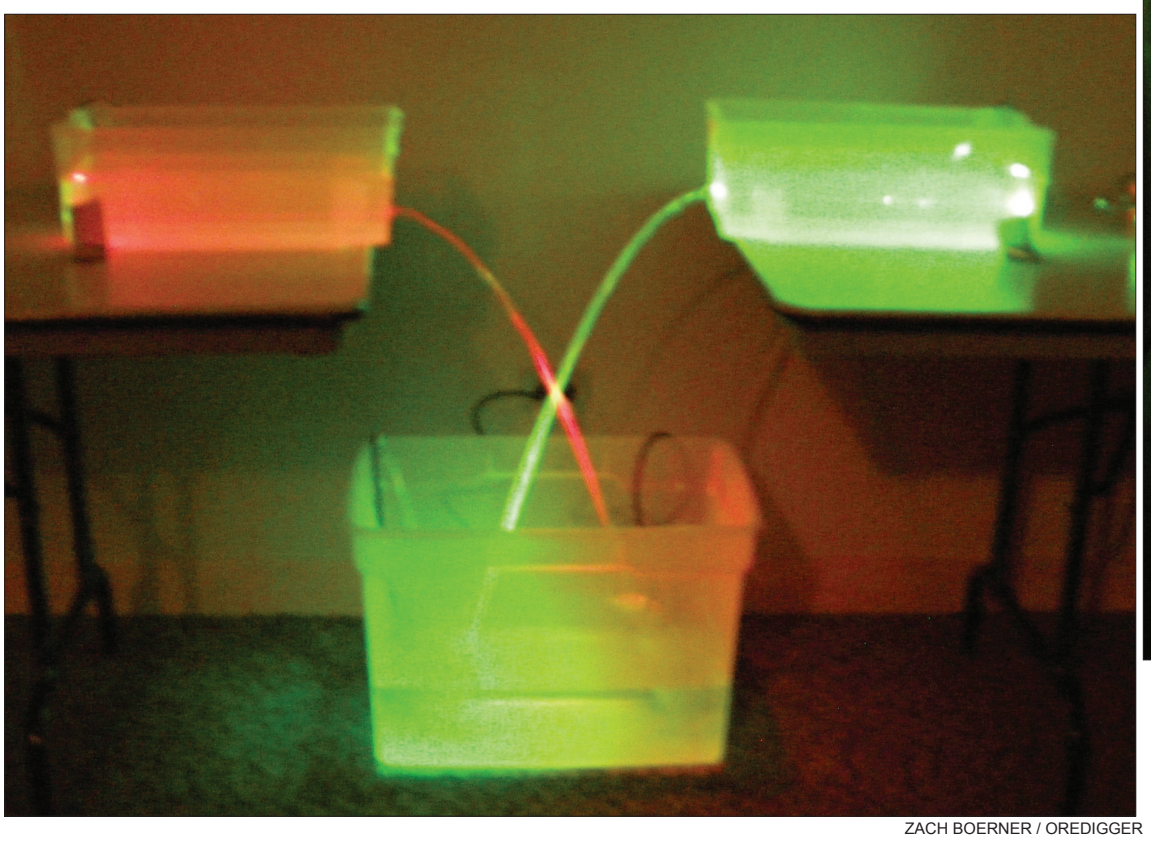

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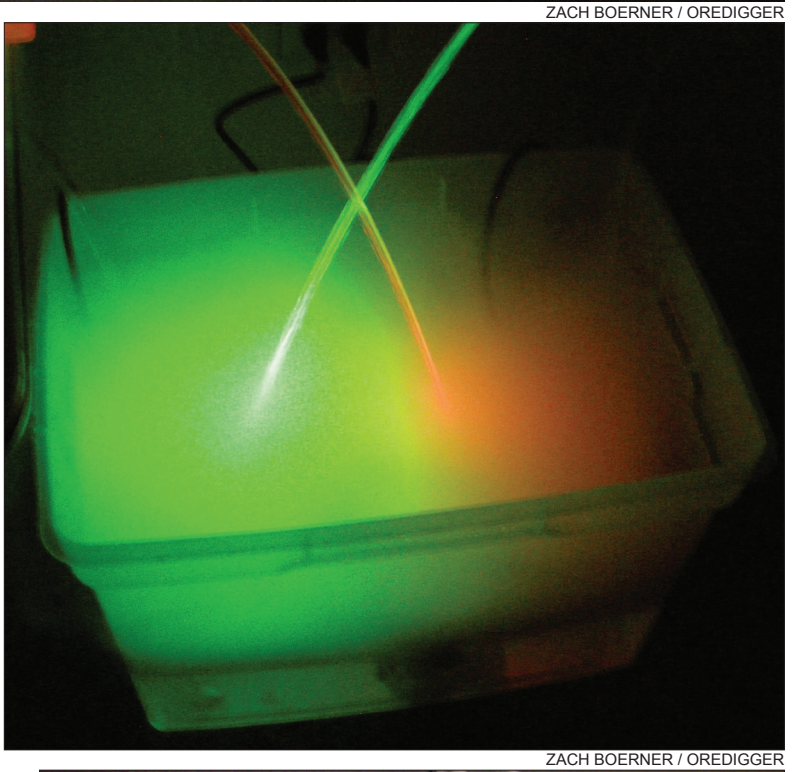

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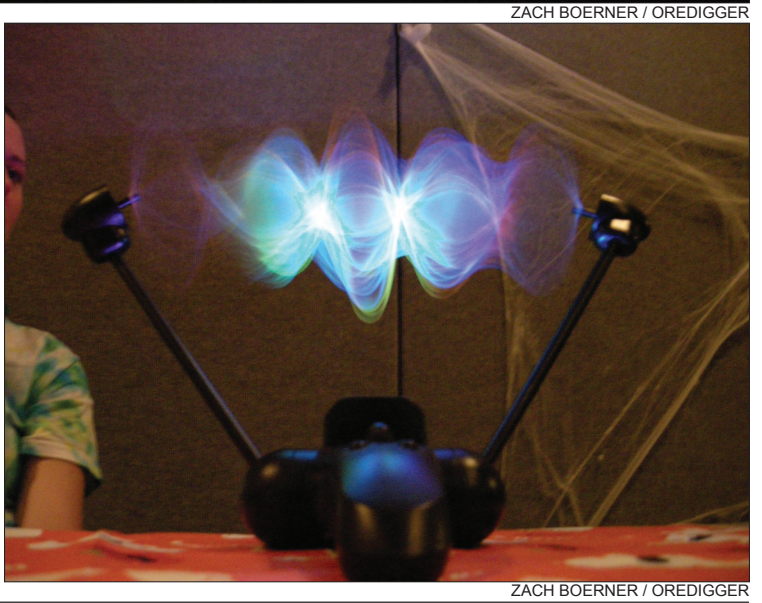
The Physics department put on their "Haunted Physics lab," demonstrating spooky experiments for all attendees to the event.



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Campus Crusade for Christ held their annual Halloween root beer kegger. Students gathered to enjoy games and root beer.

FREE MUSIC?

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Snow day

Due to a winter storm this week, Mines closed at 3 p.m. on Wednesday and did not reopen until Friday. Students made the most of the time off.

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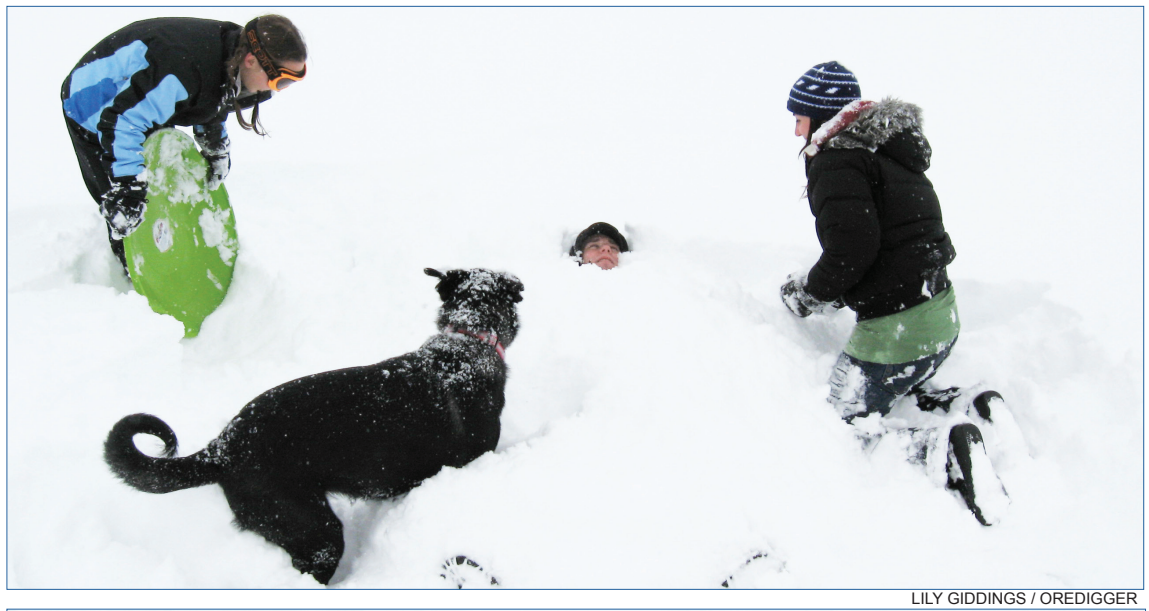

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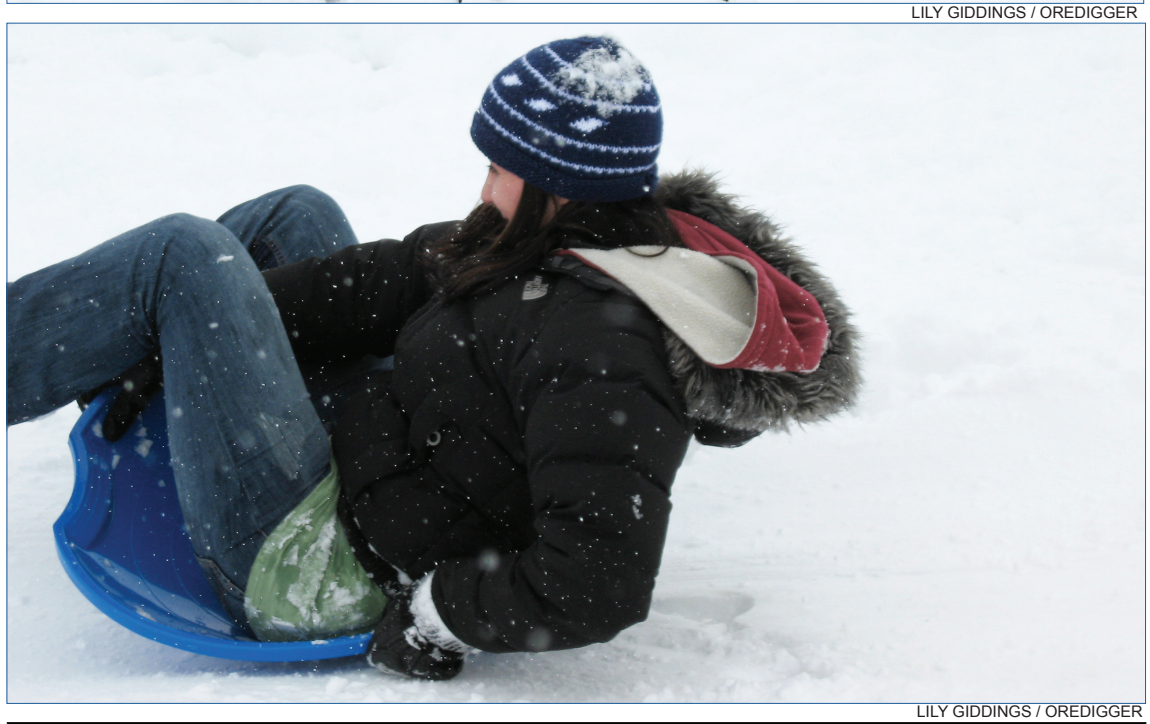


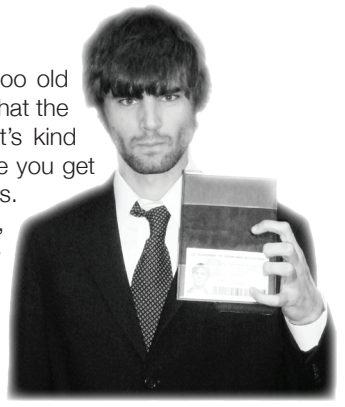
LILY GIDDINGS / OREDIGGER

Minds at Mines

Halloween Fun

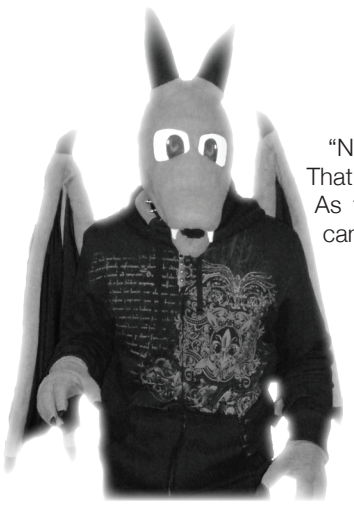
Roby Brost
Staff Writer

Super men, ninja turtles, princesses and, well… they would be ballerinas if you could see the costume beneath the winter coat… In any case, on October 31 of every year, come blizzard or high water, small children dress up and flock to the streets in pursuit of delicious, sugary goodness. Creativity lines the neighborhood streets, or the lines of haunted houses during Halloween. It seems that the older the children get the less "cool" or socially acceptable it is to observe this creative holiday. At what point does cute and creative become less cool? Is it a definitive age? Or a mental hang up rooted in social stigma? Depending on who is discussing the subject, the answer will vary. This week, Minds at Mines wanted to know, "Are you ever too old to dress up and go trick-or-treating?"



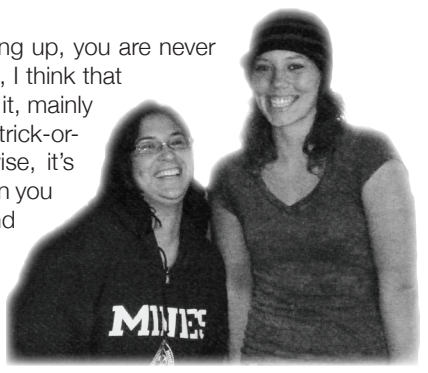
"Dress up? No, you can't ever be too old for that. But for trick-or-treating, I think that the age is freshman year in high school. It's kind of an arbitrary age, but I think that once you get beyond that point, you can go to parties. Once you can start going to real parties, then you are too old to go trick-or-treating."

Ben Conley



"No. No one is ever too old to dress up. That's really all that I have to say about that. As for trick-or-treating, well I guess you can never be too old for that either."

Chris Graff



"Personally, I think for dressing up, you are never too old. Trick-or-treating though, I think that your freshman year in college is it, mainly because that's what I did; went trick-or-treating freshman year. Otherwise, it's twenty, maybe twenty one. When you are no longer officially a child and can buy your own alcohol is too old to go trick-or-treating."

Mandi Cummings and Toni Griego

"Never! Dressing up is something that you are never too old for. Trick-or-treating… I think that you are too old when you can buy your own candy and eat it yourself. If parents are still buying your candy, then it is still ok to go [trick-or-treating]."

Mo O'Brien

"Too old for dressing up? Not while I have breath in my body… You are never too old to get a little dressed up, even if it is just to hand out candy to little kids. You're never too old for trick-or-treating either, I guess, if you are taking little kids trick-or-treating."

Nan Braddock

ALL PHOTOS ROBY BROST / OREDIGGER

Value averaging takes advantage of stock trends

Nick Libertini
Staff Writer

Time diversification is a paramount principle in long term investing. Systematically spreading out investments over time stabilizes returns, lowers the average purchase price of assets, and reduces the risk of buying high and selling low. Several weeks ago we looked at dollar cost averaging (DCA) as a means of time diversifying investments. One of the primary drawbacks of DCA is that its structure does not provide a clear cut method for reducing your market exposure when prices are high.

This flaw is not a major issue if price flow in the market is absolutely random. However, there is a mound of empirical evidence indicating that equity markets exhibit some form of overreaction and mean reversion. If we accept that market prices are not completely random, then it is only logical to try to mold our strategy to take advantage of the market's mean reverting behavior.

Value averaging is an excellent way to exploit the stock market's tendency to overreact to news events and then correct itself. Like DCA, value averaging employs systematic monthly contributions to achieve time diversification. However, with value averaging, your assets are managed by increasing the total value of your investments by a specified monthly amount. For example, with DCA the aim was to invest a constant amount, say $500, every month. With value averaging, the goal is to increase your total investments by $500 every month. Thus, if the total value of your investments is $50,000, and the market appreciated by 3% last month, then you would actually need to sell $1,000 worth of assets this month to realize a $500 increase in value. Conversely, if the market depreciated by 3%, you would have to invest $2,000 this month to achieve the desired value level of $50,500.

> With value averaging, you are always decreasing your market exposure during market peaks and increasing your exposure during market bottoms.

At first glance it may appear that the concept of time diversifying with systematic contributions falls apart with value averaging. Even though a large market gain might require you to sell some of your assets, you will still make systematic contributions to your investment account every month. All contributions that are not invested in the market and all proceeds from the sale of assets should be put to work in a money market fund. Money inside a money market fund will earn a lower, but substantially less risky, rate of return. These funds can then be reinvested in the market after a bad month when you need to ramp up your contribution to maintain your value level.

> Value averaging is an excellent way to exploit the stock market's tendency to overreact to news events and then correct itself.

What is the main benefit of value averaging your investments? With value averaging, you are always decreasing your market exposure during market peaks and increasing your exposure during market bottoms. This jockeying between buying more stock at low points and selling stock at high points actually lowers the average purchase price of your assets below the average price of the market. This lower purchase price translates into a higher rate of return than the market's rate of return. Additionally, with value averaging some of your investment risk is mitigated by selling stock at market peaks and reducing your exposure to price volatility.

What are the drawbacks of value averaging? If the market experiences an extended up trend you will be consistently selling into a growing market. Conversely, if the market experiences an extended down trend you will be consistently buying into a degrading market. Additionally, value averaging is most potent when employed in volatile markets. Unfortunately, higher volatility translates into increased investment risk. Finally, if you hold your monthly contributions constant with value averaging, their buying power will erode over time. Because inflation and market growth eat away at your money's purchasing power, it is wise to continuously increase the amount of your systematic contributions by 4-5% every year to keep pace with market growth and inflation.

Even though value averaging carries its share of risks, it is still a viable method to beat market returns without having to explicitly time market highs and lows. Ideally, value averaging should be used as a long term investing strategy in a well-diversified, tax-protected portfolio.

Tim's two ¢ents

Get opinionated!

Tim Weilert
Content Manager

This week I want to use my few words to make a call to action. My challenge to the Mines campus is this: start caring more, and let your voices be heard.

Every week I write an opinion article because we need to fill the opinion page with something other than another advertisement. And, every week, I somehow manage to come up with an opinion about something (it's easier when stupid things like Kanye West and balloon boy happen, but there are some times when you hit the bottom of the barrel).

That's where you come in, noble reader. The thing that makes an opinion page valuable is the diversity of views represented on anything and everything. Issues need not be convoluted or lofty (arguments about the nature of philosophical topics, etc.), but can be as real as the problems that we face every day.

While CSM may be a more laid-back campus than, say, CU-Boulder or CSU, that does not mean that we're any less passionate about the issues. I would go so far as to say, we're the most academically intense school in the state, we should be more vocal.

Have a few thoughts about campus construction? Student government? Anything? We want to hear about it. A well-thought and argued piece of opinion is something that is respectable and should be discussed in the public forum.

Why go on about all of this? The honest truth is that I am only one person; I only have my own opinions. While they might fill the necessary space, they lack diversity and run the risk of becoming stale. I can't keep writing these articles forever, it's your turn to be heard.

Editorials Policy

The Oredigger is a designated public forum. Editors have the authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval and may edit submitted pieces for length so long as the original meaning of the piece is unchanged. Opinions contained within the Opinion Section do not necessarily reflect those of Colorado School of Mines or The Oredigger. The Oredigger does not accept submissions without identification and will consider all requests for anonymity in publication on a case-by-case basis. Submissions less than 300 words will receive preference.

All listeners are *Welcome to the Masquerade*

Benjamin Johnson
Staff Writer

Background

Thousand Foot Krutch (TFK) is a band that has captivated those who enjoy rock music with an edge. They have blended together rap, rock, punk, ballads, and perhaps even a little pop on their previous albums. Following ***Set it Off*** came the record ***Phenomenon***, which featured the tremendously popular and catchy "Rawkfist," that really put TFK on the radar of all serious rock enthusiasts. ***The Art of Breaking*** and ***The Flame in All of Us*** were the band's next two albums. Much heavier than previous efforts, ***The Art of Breaking*** incorporated many head banging tracks including "Move" that transformed the sound and direction of the band. ***The Flame in All of Us*** was a step down for the band; too many of the songs tried to fit the common mold of modern rock and were made to be radio friendly instead of sticking to the band's roots of untamed rock. After a substantial period between records, TFK released the much anticipated ***Welcome to the Masquerade***.

Memorable Song

"E for Extinction" is a song that accentuates the separation that TFK has from the pack of mundane, mold-fitting rock bands. The verses offer smooth vocals and thought provoking lyrics and are followed by a very intense, raw transition into the chorus. Heavy guitars and deep screaming permeate the majority of the track. TFK creates a near perfect blend of meaningful lyrics, beautiful verses, and unquenched emotion in a song that is not meant for the meek.

> While sticking to their roots of heavy rock, TFK incorporated enjoyable, memorable aspects into every song that will appeal to fans of many genres.

Least Favorite Song

Following "E for Extinction," "Watching Over Me" is a transition for the album. It is the first relatively soft song on the album that follows four frantic songs. The problem with this is that it occurs very abruptly. The song is a great one and offers a different taste of the band's musical diversity but the location of the track on the album is questionable.

> With TFK, greatness can be expected and has been delivered.

In Closing

After an epic intro that continuously builds into the dramatic title track, ***Welcome to the Masquerade*** is simply TFK's best album and is also one of the best rock albums in a long time. There are many solid bands out there that release a lot of solid albums, but all of them usually have at least one major flaw. Whether it is lyrical content, musical repetitiveness, vocal emotion, or something else, nearly all records are plagued by these musical diseases. TFK has created a masterpiece with this album. Diversity is evident; while sticking to their roots of heavy rock, TFK incorporated enjoyable, memorable aspects into every song that will appeal to fans of many genres. The production quality of the album is significantly improved from all of TFK's previous albums which help to further solidify the album as truly great.

Finally, an almost subtle, but drastically noticeable and important facet of the album is the quality of the slow songs. They are never boring, they never slow the momentum of the album yet they offer contemplative moments that focus the listener on the meaning of the lyrics rather than simply listening to mind-numbing rock. With TFK, greatness can be expected and has been delivered.

Phillies and Yankees go to the World Series

Zachary Sorenson
Staff Writer

The Philadelphia Phillies are making a run at their second straight World Series title. The only obstacle they have left to surpass is the New York Yankees, a team which has proven to be quite an obstacle this year.

In the regular season, the Yankees were undeniably one of the best teams in baseball, boasting a league-best 103 wins. The Phillies also played quite well, winning the competitive National League East with 93 wins, the second-best record in the National League. However, a lack of solid relief pitching plagued the team throughout the season; season save leader Brad Lidge earned an embarrassingly high 7.21 ERA, with 31 saves and 8 losses. Yankee star closer Mariano Riviera, by contrast, earned 44 saves with a dominant 1.76 ERA. The regular season indicated the Yankees should dominate the postseason. However, regular season performance doesn't tell the whole story.

Since the start of the post-season, the Phillies have shown up to play. After defeating the Colorado Rockies 3 games to 1, the Phillies moved on to face the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Phillies outscored the Dodgers 35-16 in 5 games, winning the series 4-1.

The Yankees regular season dominance continued in the postseason against the Minnesota Twins and Los Angeles Angels. In the American League Division Series, the Yankees crushed a Twin's team which had barely squeaked into the playoffs. Winning the series 3-0, the Yankees appeared to be cruising to their 40th American League Pennant. However, the Angels were determined to give them some trouble. In a hard-fought series in which two games went to extra innings, the Yankees managed to win 4 games to 2. The American League won the All-Star game in July, giving the Yankees home-field advantage for the World Series, and both teams headed to the Bronx to fight for the title of best team in baseball.

Game 1 of the World Series was a pitcher's dual between team aces C.C. Sabathia (NY) and Cliff Lee (PHI). Lee proved nearly un-hittable in a complete game performance, with 10 strikeouts and 0 earned runs. Sabathia also pitched quite well, but Phillies second baseman Chase Utley had his number, hitting two runs off the Yankee left-hander. The game ended with a score of 6-1, with the Yankee's only run coming off an error in the ninth inning.

The Yankees were able to redeem themselves in game 2, also played in the Bronx. Starting pitchers A.J. Burnett (NY) and Pedro Martinez (PHI) were once again keys to the game, but the Yankee's high-powered offense was the deciding factor. Solo home runs by Mark Teixeira and Hideki Matsui were all the runs the Yankees would need and an RBI single from Jorge Posada gave a welcome buffer over the Phillies only run (an RBI single from Matt Stairs in the second inning). Yankee closer Mariano Rivera pitched two shut-out innings and got the 10th World Series save of his hall-of-fame career.

The winning team this year is going to have to draw not only from the star pitchers and hitters, they'll also have to draw from experience and a little bit of luck. The Phillies have been playing better than the Yankees in the postseason, and I predict that the Phillies will win in seven games.

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Show your love with homemade treats

Sarah McMurray
Staff Writer

Sometimes the definition of college student seems to be "perpetually short of money." This may prove especially true during the holiday season. Just because we may not be able to afford to buy our brother the exact awesome thing we know he would love, however, does not mean we are content to give nothing. We want to be generous with what meager funds we have, and still see his face light up with delight over our gift. And so, we slave for hours, stay up late, neglect the homework we should be doing, in order to knit him that scarf... that he never wears for the rest of his life.

So maybe it's not a hand-knitted item, maybe it's a drawing that never gets displayed, or an iron-on that comes off the sweatshirt the first time it's washed. The point is that our blood, sweat and tears have gone to waste. Not that we hold it against them (***that*** much). After all, we've all been on the receiving end of some gifts left us thinking, "What in the world am I supposed to do with this thing?"

And while I haven't entirely given up on making gifts that involve yarn, thread, and possibly sequins; I have come up with a solution that never falls flat. Food, but not just any food. The period of time from Halloween to New Years can really become a blur of rich, sugary gastronomy – leaving us ten pounds heavier and wallowing in eater's remorse. It's also a period in which just another chocolate chip cookie gets lost in the crowd. Consequently, my culinary endeavors have begun to focus on making food that doesn't usually get made: foods that are typically found pre-packaged, or behind the glassy counters of coffee shops. I've taught myself how to make shortbread, biscotti, and this year I think it's going to be scones.

Scones are of Scottish origin (much like myself), and Wikipedia informs me that the word was first mentioned by a Scottish poet in 1513. They are most popular in the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada. Of the variety known as a "quickbread," or cake (if they include sugar), they use baking power as the leavening agent. Scones are most frequently eaten at tea time, which is probably why here in America they are most often seen in coffee shops (the big triangle breads at Starbucks).

Scones also stand out from the usual holiday menagerie because they are only slightly sweetened, and can even be savory.

Since I typically pick something new that I have no idea how to make, or something that has a variety of variables involved, practicing starts early. Early being this week. It works out just fine. Rather than eating them all myself and reaching a point of baked goods overload, I just bring my practices to various holiday parties or study groups.

This week's recipe is based in a Scottish family recipe (not mine) that was adapted with the recipe of the Savoy hotel in London, who apparently make very famous scones, and my own adaptations, because I never seem to have on hand just what the recipe calls for. I am very proficient at substitution.

Ingredients:

1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
1/4 cup white sugar
1/8 teaspoon salt
5 tablespoons salted butter
1/2 cup raisins
1/2 cup half and half
1/4 cup sour cream
1 egg
1 tablespoon half and half.

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

Sift the flour, baking powder, sugar and salt into a large bowl. If you don't have a sifter, just stir it with a whist or a fork or something.

Cut in butter using a pastry blender or rubbing between your fingers until it is in pea sized lumps.

Stir in the raisins. (Crucial. They are very hard to stir in later, though not impossible…..)

Mix together 1/2 cup half and half and sour cream in a measuring cup. This is easiest using a whisk, but a fork works in a pinch.

Pour all at once into the dry ingredients, and stir gently until well blended. Overworking the dough results in terrible scones! I stirred just until everything was moist. The dough was still very crumbly.

With floured hands, pat scone dough into balls 2 to 3 inches across, depending on what size you want. I made smaller, mini scones, since I wasn't sure if people would like them. They wouldn't be forced to eat an entire huge scone or waste it.

Place onto a baking sheet covered with parchment and flatten lightly.

Whisk together the egg and 1 tablespoon of half and half.

Brush the tops of the scones with the egg wash. Or, if you don't have a brush (like me), just spoon a little of the egg mixture on and then rub it around with the spoon.

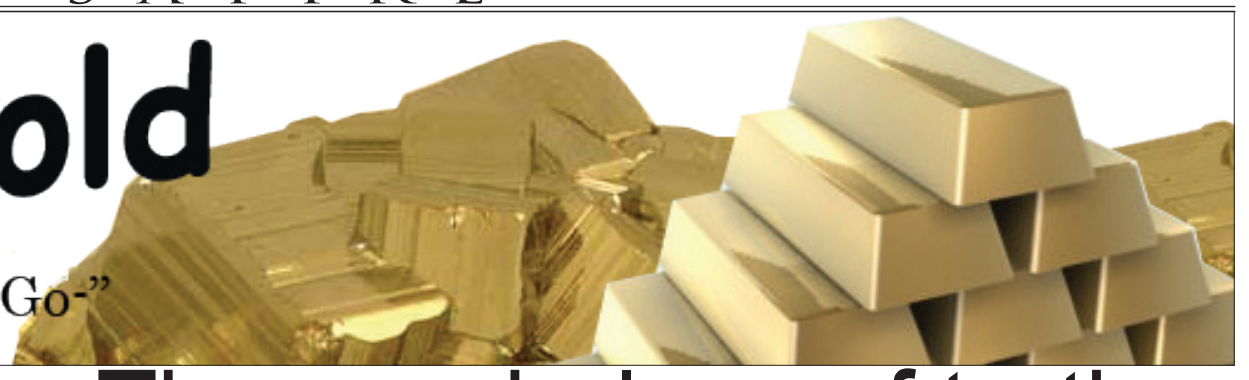
Let them rest for about 10 minutes.

Bake for 10 to 15 minutes in the preheated oven, until the tops are golden brown, not deep brown.

Break each scone apart, or slice in half. Serve with butter and a selection of jams - or even plain.

Fool's Gold

"No storm can stop Fool's Go-"



The Rumor Mill

Campus rumors debunked

Mike Stone
Researcher

Rumor: Chemical Engineering Department Head, Maria Hinesburg, is training for a marathon.

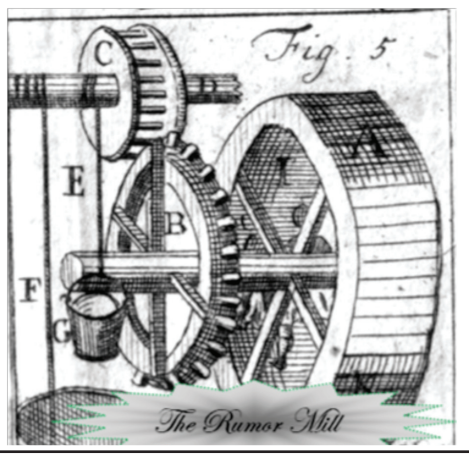
Status: Confirmed

Description: Her training is meant to be a teaching tool for all Chem-E's, to "Run: Run like Hell."

Rumor: Senior Jason Johannes can burp the alphabet in three different languages.

Status: Busted

Description: He can only burp the guitar solos to "Don't Stop Believin'", "Sweet Home Alabama", and the 1992 copy of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" by the Killers in three different languages.



The psychology of truth

Janeen Neri
Exploratory Whatiferist

How do you tell if someone is lying to you? It's something many people wonder about from time to time. For psychology expert Dr. Bill Hornblower, the answer is simple. Within five minutes of beginning his talk, ***A Third, Even Deeper Layer: The Psychology of Truth***, Hornblower summarized his findings: "They're telling the truth." He paused to let this sink in. "They're ***always*** telling the truth."

The rest of Hornblower's lecture had the same unapologetic tone as its beginning. "People don't want to believe it," he said, "but no one is capable of lying. Not them. Not me. Not you." He went on to explain that many of the circumstances in which we feel lied to are an illusion; we don't have all the information we need to assess objectively that the other party is deceiving us.

"It's surprising how deeply in the drinking water this 'lying' concept is. If you ever want to be astonished, watch a group of human behavior researchers tell their subjects to lie about some concrete fact. They see the brain wave spike and they see the anxious behavior but, they never seem to notice that the lie doesn't come out. We've learned to accept lying as a natural human thing to the point where we hear it when it isn't even there," Hornblower explains.

Hornblower followed up by showing some actual footage from his university's psychology research lab – when the audience was warned to watch for it, the effect was truly surreal. Students of psychology, arguably those best-versed in the tricks their minds could play, jotted down pages and pages of notes that completely ignored the subjects' apparent lack of compliance.

"Strange as it may seem," Hornblower continued, "I don't find that disturbing. What I ***do*** find disturbing is when it's more than just colored blocks and questionnaires. What happens, in the real world, when we have that expectation that not everything can be taken at face value? How many relationships has this damaged? Worse, how much literature and art? Or even, does anyone know what I'm saying right now?" It was a sobering prospect. What Hornblower had discovered could overturn centuries of art and literature analysis with the single insight that **everything *is* as it seems**.

"Think of what we've been missing! If my discovery had been made in the 1800s, we could actually have asked Emily Dickinson what kind of a person Death was! If made in the 1700s, we could have explained to Jonathan Swift what a horrific idea his 'modest proposal' was before the document reached the public! Stretching yet further back, we could have asked Homer what remarkable method he used for recording the entry and exit wounds caused by every spear in the Trojan War!" Hornblower relayed jubilantly.

Yet Hornblower could not conclude his talk with a mere list of failures. "Now," he said as his hour came to a close, "we must look forward, and prevent this mistake from ever again obscuring the vast civilizations fairies, elves, dragons, and Klingons that misunderstood, over-interpreted authors are chronicling everyday."

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